Direct Receiving Sets in Andaman and Nicobar Island

3960. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of direct received sets installed in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and locations thereof;

(b) whether proper monitoring is being done about the functioning of such sets;

(c) whether most of these sets are lying out-of-order; and

(d) if so, action taken to restore those sets for public use?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Doordarshan have not installed any Direct Reception set in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicaobar Islands. However, the Union Territory Administration are reported to have installed 10 such sets, one each at Teresha, Katchal, Kadmkala, Ramakrishnapuram (Little Andaman), Sastrinagar (Great Nicobar, Dugong Creek, Havlock, Hutbey, Biliground & Kalighat.

(b) to (d). Whereas Doordarshan have received information from the Union Territory Administration about malfunctioning of certain Direct Reception sets, the maintenance of such sets is the responsibility of the Union Territory Administration. Nonetheless, the Union Territory Administration have been advised to transport the defective sets to Doordarshan's Maintenance Centre at Port Blair for undertaking necessary repairs.

[*Translation*]

Recommendation of Rammohan Rao Committee

3961. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have accepted the recommendations of Rammohan Rao Committee on small newspapers;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations accepted;

(c) whether any criteria has been laid down by the Government for the implementation of these recommendations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) The Government have accepted all the recommendation of Rammohan Rao Committee with minor modification except one recommendation relating to special concessional postal tariff for small newspapers.

(b) The details of the recommendation accepted are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) No specific criteria were laid down for implementation to the recommendation of the Committee.

(d) Does not arise.